

REMARKS

Claims 4-7, 9-13, 15, 19-21, 48, 49, 54, 65-70 and 78-82 are pending. Claims 1-3, 8, 11, 14, 16-47, 50-53, and 55-77 have been cancelled. Claims 15, 48-49 and 54 have been withdrawn.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled claims in a continuation or divisional filing. Applicants also reserve the right to rejoin the subject matter of the withdrawn claims after the subject matter of the elected claims is allowed. No new matter has been added and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

The Office has imposed a Restriction Requirement on the pending claims. Applicants elect without traverse, the subject matter of Group I, which encompasses claims 4-7, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 78-82, which are drawn to an antibody or fragment thereof that specifically binds to SEQ ID NO: 2.

CONCLUSION

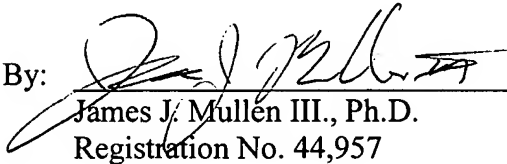
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 511582003420.

Respectfully submitted,

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